SUBJECT No. 295.

Revetment of rear slopes of bunds.

Messrs. Bade Sab and Bade Gowda, Sira Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The annual earthwork done to major tanks is almost a waste inasmuch as for want of stone revetment on the rear slope of the bund it is washed away. If it is impossible to revet the whole length of the rear slope, it would be better if such of its portions at least as are made up of the earth taken from the tank bed are ordered to be revetted with rough unburnt stones.

Reply of Government.—Noted. Individual cases may be brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioners.

SUBJECT No. 296.

Tank repairs to be entrusted to the local contractors.

Messrs. Chanda Reddi, Narasimhaiya and Dalapya, Anekal Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Omission to give the contract work of tank repairs to local men has a tendency to retard efficient and interested work. When this question was raised last year (Subject No. 558) the reply given was inadequate. Such contracts may be ordered to be given to local men of worth and responsibility.

Reply of Government.—When local contractors are available, outsiders will not be brought in. If local contractors are solvent and able in the opinion of the Public Works Department, contracts will be given to them. But competition cannot be dispensed with.

RAILWAYS.

(Nos. 297—306.)

SUBJECT No. 297.

Southern Mahratta Railway.

Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, B.A., LL.B., Shimoga Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—(1) The Southern Mahratta Railway Company, which is working the Mysore State Railway, may be instructed to run through-carriages in all its passenger trains on all portions of the State Lines.

(2) The same Company may be made to provide commodes in all 2nd class passenger carriages, with proper apparatus to flush the same.

(3) The same Company may be made to establish a native refreshment room at Birur Junction Station.

Reply of Government.—Will be referred to the Agent, Southern Mahratta Railway, for consideration.

SUBJECT No. 298.

Platform at Birur Railway Station.

Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, B.A., LL.B., Shimoga Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—The platform has been extended since my last representation, but it is not improved. What I suggested was that the platform may be so constructed that trains might be drawn up along both sides of one platform, so that passengers from one train can pass on to the other train by walking over the platform without crossin the lines. In all junction stations platforms are so constructed.

Reply of Government.—*Vide* preceding subject.